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In these burdens, there is a satisfaction to be found. Perhaps it is perverse, it may be subtle, but most of us know it's real. It is founded on the knowledge that what we do is important, on doing it well may hang our security and future as a nation, the heritage with which those who came before us entreated us and which we hold in trust for our children, our grandchildren and all our posterity. That satisfaction is heightened by understanding the perils represented by nuclear weapons, by the emergence of terrorism as a weapons system long wielded by outlaw groups and now by sovereign states to virtually obliterate the distinction between war and peace, by the pervasiveness of deliberate destabilization, subversion and instigation and support of revolutionary violence against fragile societies and governments and by a virtual litany of threats like nuclear proliferation, narcotics, theft of our technology, active measures to damage our reputation, confuse our people and our purposes and divide us from our friends and allies and on and on. There is satisfaction and challenge in awareness and understanding of these threats and dangers in serving as the first line of defense against them and in being the ones called upon to cope with them quickly and with constant readiness and vigilance and instant response. The bonds, the trust and the sharing of responsibility between and among us flourish from knowing the burdens and the risks that are carried with courage and grace, realizing how success, effectiveness and safety depends on the contribution and reliability of each of us, feeling the human and economic cost of each granule of information that pours into our hands and minds and knowing how the value of all that hangs finally on the care and depth and breadth and precision with which those nuggets are evaluated, analyzed and interpreted for their practical meaning. It is by confronting the responsibilities for all this in its multiple dimensions and meeting

that responsibility in different ways at various levels and with growing effectiveness over time that generate the qualities of mind and heart and spirit which characterize this organization and its people, cultivate and nourish the values we cherish and lead to the satisfaction we get from carrying the burdens and meeting the challenges which are inherent in this mission of ours.